

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia/USSR

SUBJECT Manganese Deliveries to Czechoslovakia from the USSR

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1. During September 1953, barges loaded with manganese ore arriving in Komarno, Czechoslovakia, were being given the highest unloading priority at that port. The ore was loaded into railroad cars and, according to transport workers in Komarno, was shipped to smelting plants in East Germany, Czechoslovakia and Poland.
2. During the last half of September, the helmsman on a barge of manganese ore arriving in Komarno stated that the ore had been loaded from a Soviet sea-going vessel in the port of Izmail, USSR. The helmsman further stated that the ore was from a mine in the Ural Mountain area and was reportedly 90 to 95 percent pure.

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